

**CITY OF COHASSET
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
305 NORTHWEST FIRST AVE, COHASSET, MINNESOTA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2014, 6:00 P.M.**

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chair Steve Brown called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

a. **Voting Members Present:** Steve Brown, Josh Casper, John Chell, Johnnie Fulton, Brian Kielpinski, Lois Kirschbaum, & Steve Otto

b. **Absent with Notice:** None

c. **Ex-Officio Members Present:** Zoning Officer Greg Tuttle, & City Council Liaison Jason Tabaka

d. **Others Present:** None

3. **Review and Approve Agenda**

a. **Additions:** None

b. **Deletions:** None

A motion was made by Chell/Casper to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Resident Input:** None

5. **Review & Approve Planning Commission Minutes of April 2, 2014:** *A motion was made by Fulton/Kielpinski to approve the April 2, 2014 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

6. **Make Recommendation to City Council Regarding a Request from David & Alice Billings for a Rezone Fee Refund** – After discussion, *a motion was made by Chell to refund a portion of the rezone fee – the motion died for the lack of a second. A motion was made by Casper/Chell to recommend to City Council that 40% of the rezone fees (\$231) be refunded. A roll-call vote was taken: Casper-aye; Chell-aye; Fulton-aye; Kielpinski-nay; Kirschbaum-aye; Otto-nay; Brown-nay. Motion passed 4-3.*

During discussion it was noted that Old Trapper Road was initially a private road put in by a developer. After lots were sold, residents requested that the City take over the road so they could obtain city services, such as snow plowing and other road maintenance. The City agreed to do so at the resident's request, and for their benefit. However, several commissioners felt it is not the City's responsibility to monitor the zoning of every parcel and residents need to take responsibility and utilize opportunities such as Comprehensive Planning Meetings to request zoning changes. There were also concerns about routinely refunding city required fees and precedent setting.

Some Commissioners voted in favor of the refund because of a statement that was made at a Planning Commission hearing to the effect that the City should have rezoned when the road was put in.

7. **Land Use Training Options** – It was agreed that land use training could wait since every Commissioner is up to date on training except for Casper.

Zoning Officer Tuttle noted that Benson Bog Days is scheduled but the Benson's have not yet met the necessary requirements. No action was taken.

Chair Steve Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Submitted by Karen Mester, Deputy Clerk

Approved: